## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00 SAB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 OMB-01 EB-07 SAM-01 DHA-02

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R 291730Z JAN 76 ZFF ABU DHABI AND BAGHDAD

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6053

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL DAHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 01602

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: GW. SA

SUBJECT: VISIT OF SAUDI ARABIAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO

FRG

REFS: BONN 01283, BONN 01506, JIDDA 0402

SUMMARY: SUCCESSFUL VISIT OF SAUDI ARABIAN FOREIGN MINISTER, JANUARY 21-23, INCLUDED DISCUSSIONS OF BOTH

POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES. PRINCE SAUD

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IBN FEISAL AND HIS HOSTS DISCUSSED FRG IN-VESTMENT IN SAUDI ARABIA, ESPECIALLY IN THE SAUDI OIL INDUSTRY,AND WEST GERMAN ASSISTANCE IN VOCATIONAL ED UCATION. IN ADDITION TO COMMENTING ON LEBANON, THE PALESTINIANS AND ISRAEL, FEISAL EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE THREAT OF COMMUNIST SUCCESSES IN ITALY AND PORTUGAL. FEISAL WAS PLEASED BY GENSCHER'S STAND ON ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM TERRITORIES OCCUPIED IN 1967 AND THE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIANS (REF B). FOREIGN OFFICE SOURCE SAID THAT NO BILATERAL PROBLEMS EXIST BETWEEN THE FRG AND SAUDI ARABIA AND THAT FEISAL AND GENSCHER DID NOT DISCUSS THE SAUDI INTEREST IN BUYING WEST GERMAN "MARDER" ARMOURED PERSONNEL CARRIERS. CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT HAS ACCEPTED INVITATION TO VISIT SAUDI ARABIA, PROBABLY IN MAY. END SUMMARY

- 1. THE SAUDI ARABIAN FOREIGN MINISTER, PRINCE SAUD IBN FEISAL, VISITED THE FRG FROM JANUARY 21-23. ACCORDING TO FOREIGN OFFICE DIRECTOR FOR ARABIAN PENINSULA AFFAIRS, THERE ARE NO BILATERAL PROBLEMS BETWEEN SAUDI ARABIA AND THE FRG, AND SAUDI IBN FEISAL'S VISIT, WHICH WAS MADE IN RESPONSE TO AN INVITATION BY GENSCHER LAST SPRING, WAS A SUCCESS FROM BOTH WEST GERMAN AND SAUDI POINTS OF VIEW. FEISAL WAS RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT SCHEEL, CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT, WHO ACCEPTED AN INVITATION TO VISIT SAUDI ARABIA IN LATE MAY, AND THE MINISTER-PRESIDENT OF NORTH RHEIN WESTPHALIA. HE ALSO MET WITH MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION COMMITTEES OF THE BUNDESTAG. PRESS REPORTS WERE POSITIVE.
- 2. AT A JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE GENSCHER ANNOUNCED THAT BOTH SAUDI ARABIA AND THE FRG WERE INTERESTED IN EXPANDING ECONOMIC RELATIONS, INCLUDING THE PROMOTION OF WEST GERMAN INVESTMENT IN SAUDI ARABIA AND COOPERATION IN THE OIL INDUSTRY. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, THE FRG, WHICH IN 1975 RECEIVED 21 PERCENT OF ITS OIL FROM SAUDI ARABIA THROUGH INTERLIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NATIONAL FIRMS, WANTS THE WEST GERMAN FIRM DEMINEX TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE OIL INDUSTRY. INCREASING WEST GERMAN ASSISTANCE IN THE FIELD OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION WAS ALSO DISCUSSED. THE

NUMBER OF WEST GERMAN VOCATIONAL EDUCATIONAL SPECIALISTS IN SAUDI ARABIA WILL BE INCREASED TO 150, BUT NO AGREEMENTS WERE SIGNED.

3. AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE THE TWO FOREIGN MINISTERS ALSO DISCUSSED MIDDLE EAST PROBLEMS. REGARDING LEBANON, PRINCE SAUD IBN FEISAL SAID THAT ISRAELI THREATS TO

INTERVENE CONSTITUTED THE MAJOR CONCERN OF THE MOMENT BECAUSE THE ISRAELIS WERE SEEKING A PRETEXT TO OCCUPY MORE ARAB TERRITORY. ASKED IF SAUDI ARABIA WAS READY TO ACCEPT THE RIGHT OF ISRAEL TO EXIST, SAUD IBN FEISAL RESPONDEDTHAT THE RIGHT OF ISRAEL TO EXIST WAS NOT A "SUBSTANTIAL QUESTION" IN THE NEAR EAST CONFLICT, FOR THE EXISTENCE OF ISRAEL IS NOT IN QUESTION. THE

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 15 SEP 1999 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: PETROLEUM, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, GW, MINISTERIAL VISITS, FOREIGN INVESTMENTS, VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, FOREIGN

**ASSISTANCE** Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 29 JAN 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note:

Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVI Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a Disposition Reason: Disposition Remarks: Document Number: 1976BONN01602 Document Source: ADS

**Document Unique ID: 00** 

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: n/a

Film Number: D760036-0309 From: BONN

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760199/baaaeruu.tel

Line Count: 118

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM Office: ORIGIN BONN

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3

Previous Channel Indicators:

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED

Review Authority: morefirh Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 27 APR 2004 **Review Event:** Review Exemptions: n/a

Review History: RELEASED <27 APR 2004 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <17 MAY 2004 by morefirh>

**Review Markings:** 

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State **EO Systematic Review** 04 MÅY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a Secure: OPEN

Status: NATIVE

Subject: VISIT OF SAUDI ARABIAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO TAGS: PFOR, SA, GE, (SAUD IBN FEISAL)
To: STATE INFO AMMAN

ABU DHABI BAGHDAD **BEIRUT DAMASCUS**  DAHAHRAN
CAIRO
JERUSALEM
TEL AVIV
XUQAMEMBASSY JIDDA
USUN N Y
SANA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006